

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 250214

70

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 250214

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH BASES

1. FOLLOWING FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE ARE
PERTINENT PORTIONS NOON BRIEFING, OCTOBER 21, DEALING WITH
TURKISH BASE SITUATION:

QUOTE

Q: THERE'S A REPORT FROM ANKARA TODAY THAT THE TURKISH
GOVERNMENT IS NOW WILLING TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS ON THE
STATE OF THE U.S. BASES IN TURKEY. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING
TO ADD TO THAT ANNOUNCEMENT?

A: WELL, I CAN CONFIRM THAT THE U.S. AND TURKEY WILL
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PAGE 02 STATE 250214

RESUME NEGOTIATIONS ON BILATERAL DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS NEXT

WEEK IN ANKARA. PRECISE DATE AND TIME ARE NOT YET SET.

Q: WHO IS GOING TO NEGOTIATE FOR YOU?

A: I BELIEVE, ON BACKGROUND, IT IS PROBABLY GOING TO BE OUR AMBASSADOR IN ANKARA, MR. MACOMBER.

BELIEVE IS REFERRED TO IN THE STORY OUT OF ANKARA?

A: WELL, WE ARE PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID "THE TURKISH GOVT HAS TAKEN THE DECISION TO SUPPORT THE DISCUSSION OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM IN ALL ITS ASPECTS

FOR THE PURPOSE OF REACHING A POLITICAL SOLUTION IN THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS."

NOW, THAT IS A QUOTE FROM THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER.

WE SHARE THE DESIRE TO SEE NEGOTIATIONS ON CYPRUS RESUME AT AN EARLY DATE. OUR POSITION THAT ONLY THROUGH DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES THEMSELVES CAN A FINAL POLITICAL SOLUTION BE REACHED HAS BEEN STATED OFTEN, AND WE ARE OF COURSE DOING ALL THAT WE CAN TO ENCOURAGE THIS PROCESS.

Q: IT'S UNCLEAR TO ME WHAT MACOMBER WILL BE DOING THAT HE HASN'T DONE ALREADY. HASN'T HE HAD ALL THESE TALKS ALREADY? THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS FROM TURKEY ABOUT HOW TURKEY IS TAKING THIS STAND. WASN'T THAT MACOMBER DOING THAT?

A: I DON'T BELIEVE THAT SINCE THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO THERE HAS BEEN ANY FORMAL NEGOTIATION.

Q: NO, NOT NEGOTIATIONS. THE KEY WORD IS "NEGOTIATIONS" I TAKE IT. TALKS HAVE BEEN HELD ALL ALONG?

A: THE AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE TURKS, YES, ALL ALONG, BUT THIS IS A LITTLE DIFFERENT.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY INDICATIONS HERE THAT THE TURKS UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 250214

WOULD REQUEST A LEASE ARRANGEMENT?

A: I REALLY DON'T HAVE ANY DETAILS OF WHAT THEY MAY BE PLANNING TO ASK.

Q: THE ONLY THING THEY TOLD YOU IS THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO START SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS ON THE BASES QUESTION, IS THAT CORRECT?

A: WHAT I SAID WAS THAT I AM CONFIRMING THAT THE UNITED STATES AND TURKEY WILL RESUME NEGOTIATIONS.

Q: I KNOW WHAT YOU SAID, BUT I'M ASKING.

A: I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING BEYOND THAT.

Q: HAS THE UNITED STATES BEEN GIVEN ANY INDICATION OR ANY INFORMATION THAT TURKEY IS GOING TO EASE THE

RESTRICTIONS IT HAS PUT ON AMERICAN OPERATION OF THE BASES WHILE THESE DISCUSSIONS CONTINUE?

A: THE STATUS OF U.S. MILITARY BASES IN TURKEY AND OUR SERVICEMEN THERE WILL, OF COURSE, BE A PART OF THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT BEGIN NEXT WEEK. WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTIONS CAN BE PROMPTLY ARRIVED AT IN THOSE DISCUSSIONS.

Q: HAVE THE TURKS GIVEN ANY INDICATION THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO MAKE CONCESSIONS ON CYPRUS THAT WOULD ENABLE THE ADMINISTRATION TO GO TO CONGRESS FOR FURTHER EASING OF THE ARMS RESTRICTIONS?

A: I REALLY DON'T KNOW. INGERSOLL

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